

A Typology of Repeating Research for Computational Literary Studies

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slides: dh-trier.github.io/trr/

Replication and CLS | Feb 23, 2021



(1) What is Repeating Research?

Repeating Research in Context

meta-studies

shared tasks

evaluation

repeating research

peer-review

Open Science

transparency

benchmarking

Why does Repeating Research matter?

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- Why is it relevant?
 - Relates to issues of trust and reliability of research
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- Why is it relevant?
 - Relates to issues of trust and reliability of research
 - Relates to generalizability and robustness of research
- Why is it timely?
 - Recently, repeatability of research has come to be questioned
 - First in biomedicine and psychology
 - More recently also in ML, NLP and CLS

(2) A Typology of Repeating Research

Dimensions of the typology

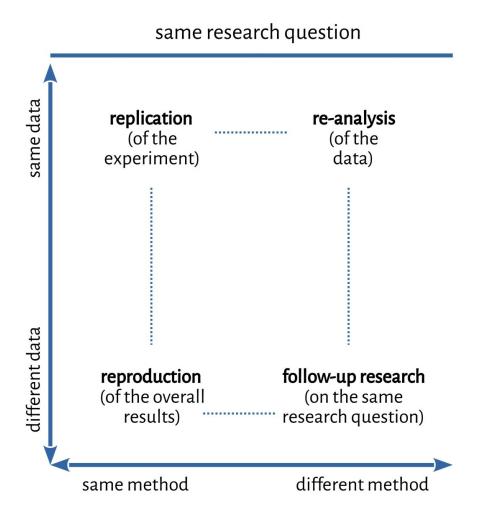
Dimensions of the typology

- Three (four) key dimensions
 - research question
 - method / implementation
 - dataset used
 - (person or team)

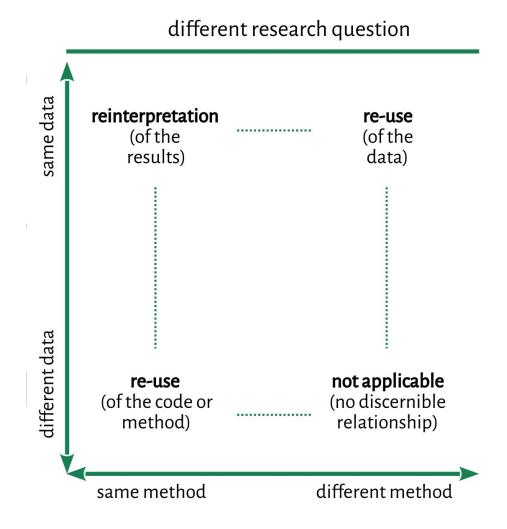
Dimensions of the typology

- Three (four) key dimensions
 - research question
 - method / implementation
 - dataset used
 - (person or team)
- Each dimension can be
 - identical
 - more or less similar
 - different

Typology (same research question)



Typology (different research question)



Conclusion

- Structure
 - Structures the field of RR
 - Systematic relations between kinds of RR

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Terminology

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Practice

- What needs to be provided to enable specific type of RR?
- Clarity on what to expect from a given RR study
- Helps identify similar studies across disciplines

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Strategy

Helps establish RR as part of CLS

A way forward?

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- Who is concerned by RR?
 - An individual effort: routinely make code and data available
 - A community effort: organize, together, a continual replication process
- How to support RR?
 - Help make papers repeatable: Establish reporting standards for RR
 - Support practice of RR: Establish a RR publication category
 - Create incentives for RR: e.g. best RR paper award

Recommended Readings

- Huber, Eva, and Çağrı Çöltekin, 'Reproduction and Replication: A Case Study with Automatic Essay Scoring', in Proceedings of the 12th Language Resources and Evaluation Conference (presented at the LREC 2020, Marseille, France: European Language Resources Association, 2020), pp. 5603–13 https://www.aclweb.org/anthology/2020.lrec-1.688 [accessed 21 February 2021]
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- Plesser, Hans E., 'Reproducibility vs. Replicability: A Brief History of a Confused Terminology', Frontiers in Neuroinformatics, 11 (2018) https://doi.org/10.3389/fninf.2017.00076
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- Open Science Collaboration, 'Estimating the Reproducibility of Psychological Science', Science, 349.6251 (2015) https://doi.org/10.1126/science.aac4716